

ALL IN COLOUR - MAKES LEARNING A JOY

# Once Upon a Time

EVERY WEDNESDAY

No. 44 • 13th December 1968

PRICE 1/3



# SNOW-WHITE and the Seven Dwarfs



1. Disguised as an old gypsy woman selling fruit, the wicked Queen went over the seven mountains to the cottage of the Seven Dwarfs and knocked on the front door. "Please let me in, sweet missy," she whined. "I'm only a poor woman with some apples to sell." "I would like some, but I'm really not allowed to buy things at the door," replied Snow White.



2. "Come, come, my dear, apples like these are too good to miss," cackled the Queen. "See how ripe they are. I will take a bite out of one and show you." She took a bite, but was careful to take it from the green side of the apple, which had no poison on it. Seeing that the old gypsy suffered no harm, Snow White let her in and bought the poison apple.



3. It looked so tasty that Snow White could not resist taking a bite. But the moment she tasted the rosy, poisoned side, she felt her throat burning and her head going all dizzy. "At last I have done it!" said the Queen as Snow White fell down.



4. That night, when the Seven Dwarfs returned from their gold mine in the mountains, they found poor Snow White lying on the floor and could not revive her. "She is dead," sobbed one. Broken-hearted, the Seven Dwarfs cried and cried and cried.



6. Sadly, walking about on the tips of their toes and speaking only in hushed whispers, the Seven Dwarfs made a beautiful glass coffin. They laid Snow White in it and gathered round it in the light of a lantern. Some of the animals from the forest came to the front door and looked in, very sad and sorrowful, for they too had grown to love Snow White very dearly.



6. In the morning, dressed in their dark clothes and carrying their huts in their hands, the Seven Dwarfs began a most sad and solemn procession to the mountains. "We will put Snow White in our mine," they said. "There, she will always be near to us and we will remember the sweet times when she was alive and gay and brought so much happiness to our home."



7. Outside the entrance to the mine, the Seven Dwarfs halted and placed the glass coffin on a mound of earth. "Now let us sing a song of sorrow," they said. They had only tiny voices, but the song they sang was like the meaning of the wind—a strange sound, which floated in and out of the valleys, and attracted the notice of a handsome Prince on a white horse.

8. The Prince looked across the valley to the mine and he was puzzled by what he saw. "Seven dwarfs and a glass coffin?" he said to himself. "What is the meaning of all this? And what do I see inside the glass coffin, lying so still? It is indeed a most lovely young lady. I must go closer and ask those dwarfs how such a dreadful thing could have happened."

See the wonderful thing that happens in this lovely Snow White story next week.

Our "Abeer's" pages this week show you some of the different ways in which animals behave when they go looking for a mate.

# The Courtship of Animals



When humans go "courting" they usually get married and become husband and wife. Creatures go courting, too, and it is then that you see them displaying their brightest colours. Even those without much colour, like the eelworm, open their mouths to show off their coloured throats. Birds spread their feathers not only to show their colours but to make themselves look

bigger. This is because, at courting-time, there is always much fighting over places to live and the bigger the creature can look, the easier it will scare off its rivals. Fish spread their fins and raise their spines and look as warlike as they possibly can. Even the male fiddler crab goes around in search of a female, waving his one large red claw about in a very aggressive way. In most

cases it is the male who has the finery and colour and he displays this to the female, who does not take much part in the game of courting. However, in the case of grebes, where male and female are much alike, both partners take an equal part in the courtship. As you can see, courtship is a time for dressing up and showing off.

The birds, reptiles, fish and insects are all numbered and the list below will help you to know what they are :-

1. CORMORANTS
2. GREAT ORYZZA GIBBER
3. TIGER
4. BLUE BIRD OF PARADISE
5. CUTTLEFISH
6. SUMATRA FIGHTING FISH
7. THREE-SPEED STICKLEBACK
8. CHATULAH
9. RED BIRD OF PARADISE
10. NEWTS
11. ANCON
12. CUCKOO-SPHINX
13. SEA SCORPION
14. LION-FISH
15. POOLY CRAB
16. AMBERY PREBANT
17. HUFF AND PUFF
18. GREAT AMBERY PREBANT

*This exciting and delightful picture was drawn by artist Heave Parter*



# BRER RABBIT

This week's Brer Rabbit story by Barbara Hayes is: The Kite.

**N**OW every few months in the land where the animals lived, there was a big market down on the common land by the meadows.

There were stalls for clothes, stalls for food, stalls for carpets, stalls for pots and pans—even stalls for toffee apples.

Well, one day, during the week before the big market was to be held, Mrs. Rabbit said to Brer Rabbit, "I really must take the little babs down to the big market next week and get them all fitted out with new jackets. And while we're there, perhaps

we could all have a toffee apple each."

As soon as the little babs heard the words toffee apple, they were jumping with excitement and every morning for the next week, they kept chanting:

"We want toffee apples."

"Dad will buy us toffee apples."

"Roll on market day—hooray!"

Now, as it happened Brer Wolf had been rather short of food lately and he had taken to hanging about near Brer Rabbit's home and watching the baby babs with a hungry gleam in his eyes.

So as the day of the market drew near, Brer Rabbit tried to think of a way of getting himself and Mrs. Rabbit and the little baby babs out of the house, without being caught by hungry Brer Wolf.

Brer Rabbit paced up and down in his garden, with his hands behind his back, talking to himself.

At last he said aloud, "I know what to do. I will get old Uncle Jeremiah's kite out from the loft. Then I will tie my little babs up in sacks and tie the sacks to the kite string. And best of all I will put Mrs.

Rabbit into a great big sack and tie her on, too. Then I will fly the kite up above the trees and hold the string tightly in my hand and run to the market. Stupid old Brer Wolf will not realize I am slipping past him with my whole family."

And Brer Wolf, who was hiding on the other side of the garden fence, listened to every word and vowed that he would never be deceived by a trick like that.

So on the day of the big market, Brer Rabbit flew his old Uncle Jeremiah's kite high above the trees, and swinging from the kite string were lot of little sacks and one big sack.

Out through his garden gate ran Brer Rabbit holding the kite string in his hand, but he had only gone lickety-clipping a few paces along the road, when who should step out from the bushes but Brer Wolf.

"Howdy!" said Brer Wolf.

"Howdy!" answered Brer Rabbit.

"What have you got in those sacks, Brer Rabbit?"

"Nothing to interest you, Brer Wolf, just some old rags. Nothing but old rags."

"Are you sure it's just old rags up there?"

"Quite sure it's just old rags. Now let me pass, please, Brer Wolf, I'm in a mighty hurry."

"I don't believe they are old rags in those sacks. I believe they are Mrs. Rabbit and the little rabs," answered Brer Wolf.

"Brer Wolf, you are wrong," said Brer Rabbit.

But Brer Wolf didn't waste any more time arguing. He made a grab at the kite string with his paw. There was a struggle and somehow or other Brer Rabbit let go of the kite string altogether and the kite and sacks went blowing away across the meadows.

With a mighty growl, Brer Wolf leapt after the kite string as it danced along just a few feet from the ground. He chased it for miles over fields and through streams, till he was quite worn out—but at last he caught it.

And when he hauled it down and looked in the sacks, do you know what he found? *Old rags!*

Brer Rabbit had tricked him again.

But by this time, Brer Rabbit and his family had gone to market, bought the jackets and loaves apples, and got safely home again.

Brer Rabbit had known that Brer Wolf had listened to him talking to himself in the garden and had planned that he and his family should run to market while Brer Wolf was off chasing the kite.

Clever Brer Rabbit.

There will be another Brer Rabbit story next week.

HAVE YOU HEARD THE NEWS?

## ONCE UPON A TIME annual 1970

IS READY AND ON SALE NOW!

It is the loveliest 96-page annual you have ever seen, with every page in beautiful colour—and is just the thing for Once Upon A Time readers and their friends. Once Upon A Time Annual costs 12/6 (U.K. price)

Wouldn't you like a copy?



# Some Fruits to eat

The white fruits are for you to colour.  
Copy them carefully.



1. **Strawberry.** These fruits grow on plants close to the soil and loose straw is put under them to protect them from dirt. That is why they are called strawberries. The time for picking these juicy berries to eat with cream is in June and July.



2. **Blackcurrant.** Blackcurrants grow on bushes. The flowers grow thickly on slender stems and produce bunches of small berries, full of sweet juice which can stain your hands and clothes, so be careful if you eat them fresh, or as jam.



3. **Apricot.** This fruit grows best in warm countries and first grew wild in China. Apricots are close relations of plums and peaches and are usually eaten as dried fruits or when canned. The name apricot means "early ripening".



4. **Gooseberry.** If you ever try to pick ripe gooseberries be very careful. The branches of the bushes are protected by sharp spikes. You will see that a gooseberry is covered with tiny hairs. This is to stop insects from eating them.



5. **Plum.** When Little Jack Horner put in his thumb and pulled out a plum, he said, "What a good boy am I!". He was also a very lucky boy, for these fruits when ripe are delicious to eat. The largest and tastiest are called Victoria plums.



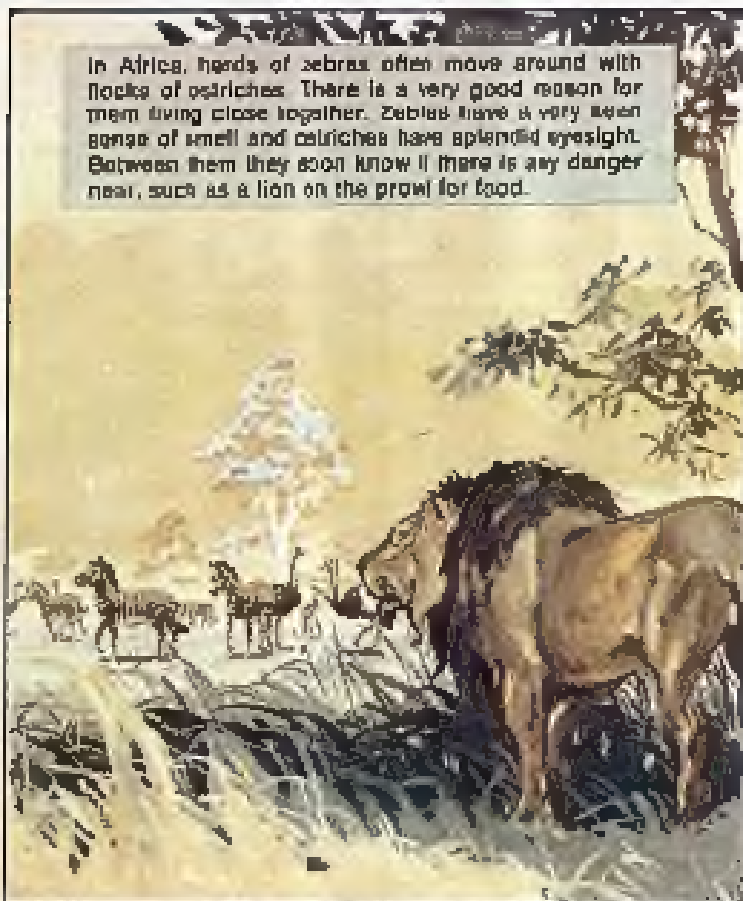
6. **Raspberry.** Raspberry fruits are full of tiny pits, which are really the seeds. The plants they grow on are called raspberry canes, and in the spring, when the flowers are out, you will always find swarms of bees buzzing around them.

# Well, Fancy That!



People say that lightning never strikes twice in the same place, but this is not true. In New York there stands the skyscraper Empire State Building. During the first ten years after it was built, the mast on top of the tower was struck 68 different times.

In Africa, herds of zebras often move around with flocks of ostriches. There is a very good reason for them living close together. Zebras have a very keen sense of smell and ostriches have splendid eyesight. Between them they soon know if there is any danger near, such as a lion on the prowl for food.



There have been Pekingese dogs in Europe for only 58 years. They used to be the private dogs of the Chinese Royal Family. Nobody else was allowed to own them, but during some trouble in China in 1911, a British naval officer found five Pekingese dogs and took them to England, where they became popular.





This is a Memory Test. When you have read the story, turn to page 18 and try to answer the questions, to see how good your memory is.

## Jerked Down!

In the year 1907, when this exciting action picture was painted by artist C. M. Russell, great areas of the western part of the United States were used for the raising of cattle. Large herds of cattle were allowed to wander free on the open grazing lands of such places as the state of Arizona and they were collected now and then for marking to show to which ranch they belonged. This was called "branding". Even horses



were blended and you can see the mark clearly in one of the horse's hindquarters. The men who rounded up the cattle were confused. They were experts at using horses and receiving a lesson in logic over the heads of the boys who wanted to catch them. Then they would easily turn the rope around the gunnys in the saddle so that the horses could see the grain of the saddle pad. The horses immediately went into a gallop

at the work of counterbalancing and were seldom pulled off balance. But in the picture you can see that the horse is the animal that has been given a lesson and the saddle will be hard to see if he is not in the seat of the saddle. The glass has a cracked look in its eye, isn't it? It almost seems to be laughing at having seen the boy's old

# The little Red Pig



Once upon a time in a happy farmyard where the ducks went quack and the cockerels went cock-a-doodle-doo and the pigs went pork-pork there lived a little piglet named Twirly-tail. He was always hungry and one morning he saw a man passing by with a bundle. Out of it dropped a big piece of cake.



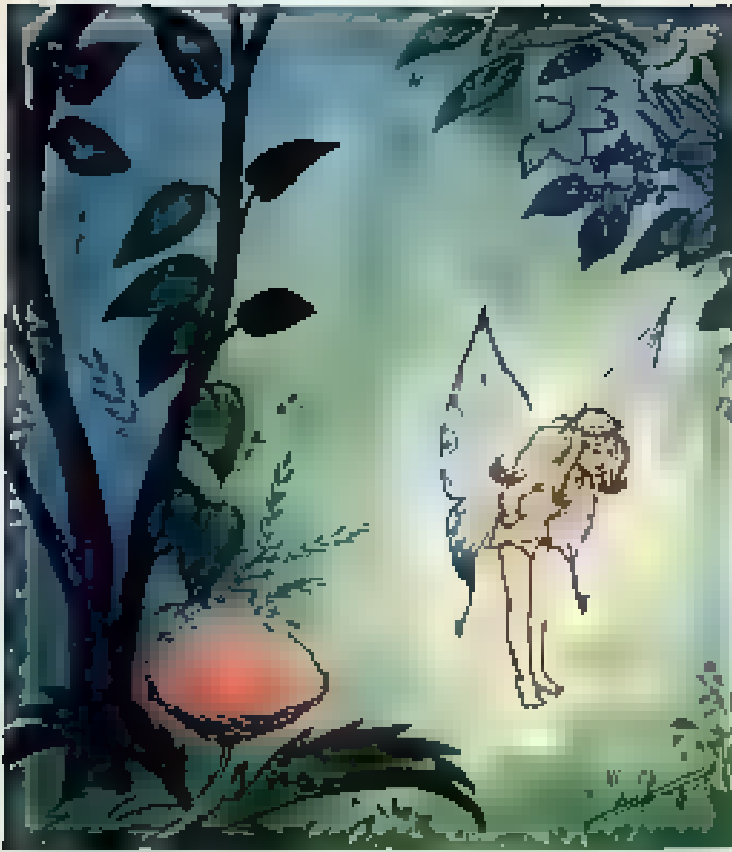
"Yummy, I'm very fond of cake," said Twirly-tail. "I can eat six helpings and then lend room for more." Not knowing that the man who had lost the cake was a magician, Twirly-tail took a big bite. "O— suddenly feel all warm inside," he said. And, starting at the end of his tail, he turned RED.



When he was a bright red all over, Twirly-tail went into the farmyard and at once everything else started to turn red. Look at me, wailed the proud peacock. Just look at my lovely tail-feathers—they make me seem more like a Red Indian. It's all your fault, Twirly-tail, quacked the ducks. By some magic means you are making us all change our colour.



"I must have been that piece of cake," said Twirly-tail. "I should have given it back to the man who dropped it." But before he could think of what to do the farmer came along and he went very red in the face, too. "Red chickens? Red ducks? Red everything?" he shouted angrily. "Who did it?" Poor Twirly-tail did not stop to answer all these questions—he lied.



5. Meanwhile in a nearby woodland glade, a worried fairy was looking for her magic wand. 'I dropped it somewhere around here,' she said. 'Where can it be?' Because the magic wand was green it could not easily be seen in the green grass. (Can you see it, readers?) The poor fairy was sadly puzzled.



6. To lose a magic wand was the worst thing a woodland fairy could do. The Queen of the fairies will be so annoyed she won't let me out on my own again,' she sighed. Just at that moment Twirly-tail came into the wood and—whizz zipperly-zee! The lost green wand turned red and the fairy saw it at once.



7. 'How lucky for me that you arrived just in time, dear Twirly-tail,' she smiled. 'What a wonderful bit of magic.' 'Maybe so, but I don't want to be a magic-maker any more,' replied Twirly-tail. The fairy was soon able to take care of that and with a wave of her wand she put everything right.

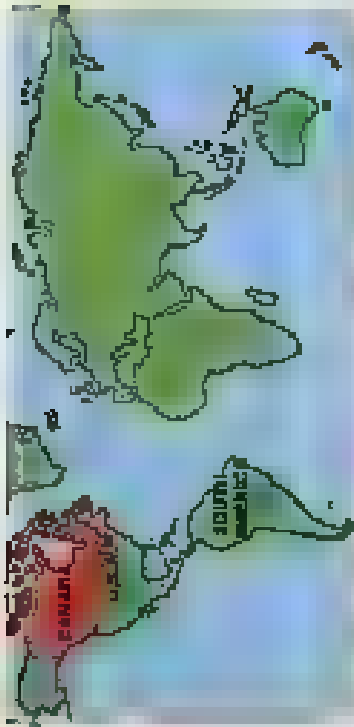


8. So back to the farm went Twirly-tail and he was delighted to see that the fairy's magic had changed everybody back to their proper colour. 'Quack-quack, welcome back,' said the ducks. 'You are in time for tea, Twirly-tail.' 'Good, but I don't think I'll eat cake for a while,' said the happy pig.



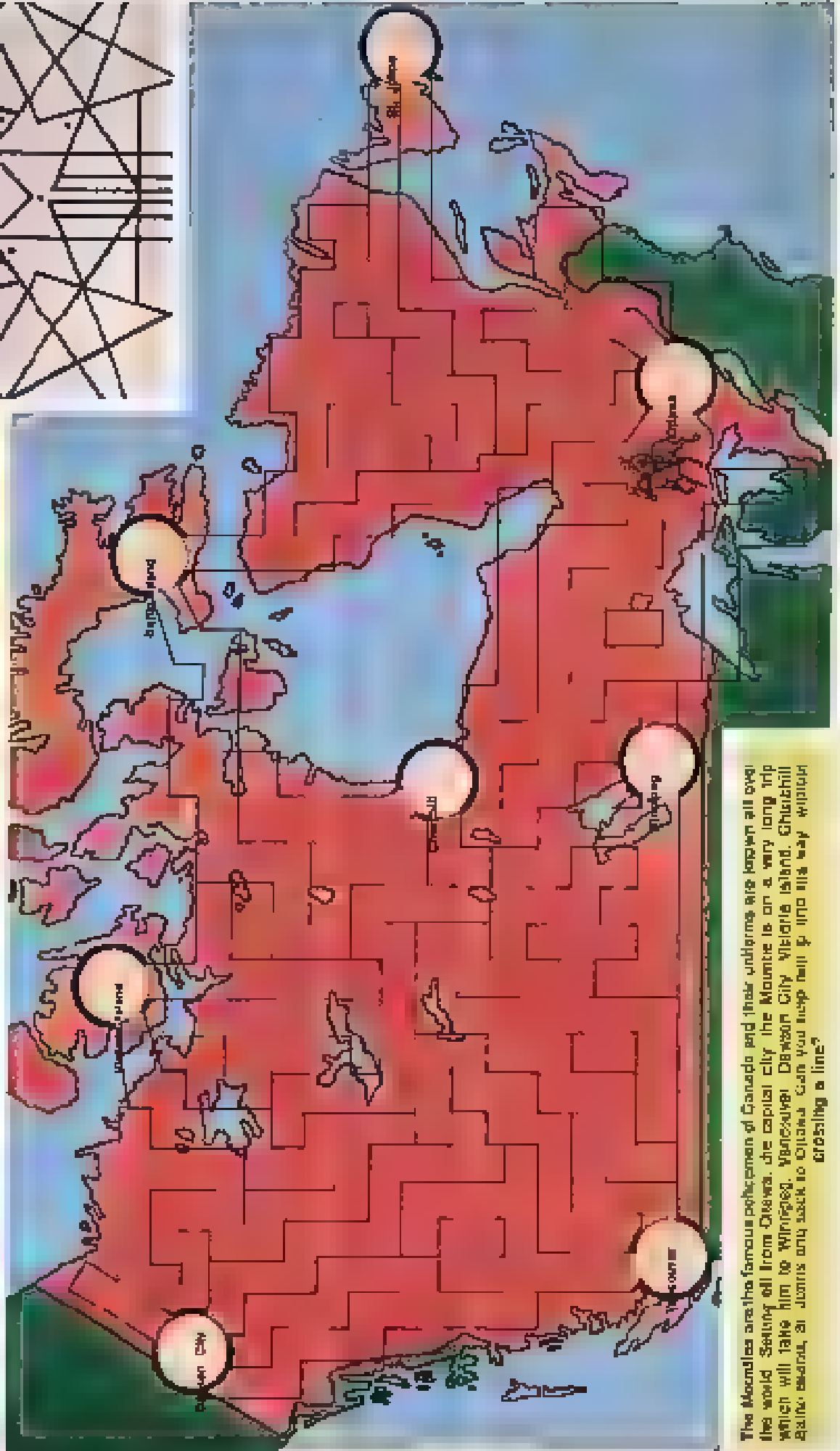
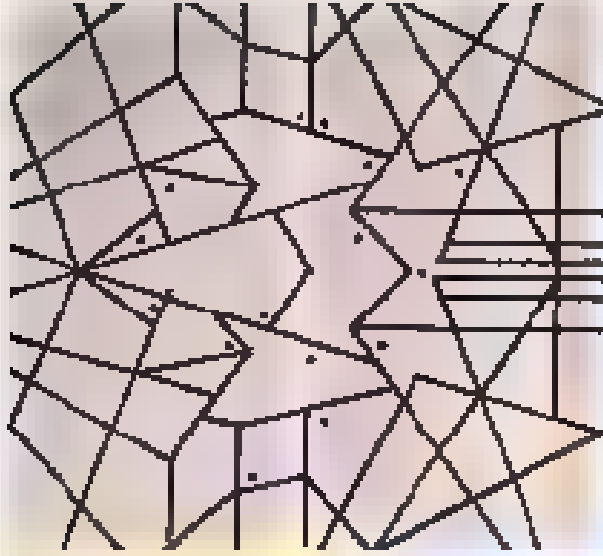
## Beautiful Paintings

Jan Vermeer who painted this beautiful picture called 'The Artist's Studio' was only 43 years old when he died in 1675. He was born in Delft, the little Dutch town which is famous all over the world for its blue and white pottery. The artist in his essence has his back to us, but it is Jan Vermeer himself, using a young girl as a model for a painting of an angel. The beauty of Vermeer's paintings lies in the warm colours that he used and the way the light strikes into the picture. When he painted his pictures, Vermeer sold them for only a few shillings, but now they are worth thousands of pounds.



# CANADA

Canada is the top half of the great continent of North America and the map on the left shows its place in the world. It is a rich country, producing great quantities of wheat, lumber, gold, copper and other things. About a quarter of the Canadian people speak French. On the right is a picture of a Canadian city. By filling in the spaces marked with a dot, you will reveal the national emblem of Canada, which is a maple leaf.



The Mounties are the famous policemen of Canada and their uniforms are known all over the world. Seeing all from Ottawa, the capital city, the Mountie is on a very long trip which will take him to Winnipeg, Vancouver, Dawson City, Victoria Island, Churchill, and back to Ottawa. Can you keep him going and his way without crossing a line?

# The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse<sup>2</sup>

This week: The pretty dress. By Barbara Hooper

STEPHANIE AND HER MICE WAS HAVING A wonderful time. She had recently returned from a holiday in Paris with her cousin, Wilfrid. The

And ever since she had arrived home, Stephanie had not stopped boasting to her town friends about the wonderful things she had done and seen, while she had been in France.

While she was having tea with her neighbour Mrs. Topdrawer Stephanie kept saying things like "As I said to Nigel as we were going up the Eiffel Tower—

Mrs. Topdrawer does?

And, of course, Mrs. Topdrawer had to say no, and felt very small compared with Stephanie.

Then when Stephanie was in the beauty parlour having her nails varnished, she said in a loud voice

"I brought this shade of varnish back from Paris with me. It is all the rage there. Best me! See the rest of you girls are still wearing last year's colour."

All the other mice began to talk about Stephanie.

But the day when her trunkful of new dresses would arrive from Paris

She could hardly keep still with excitement.

"It should be here next Saturday," said Stephanie to her friends, who actually weren't feeling very

a walk in the park on Sunday morning.

my lovely new clothes

proving your old-fashioned things.

The other mice were furious. Really, Stephanie had gone a bit too far, hadn't she?

The other mice got together and agreed not to go for their usual walks in

new dress that she keeps raving about," they said. But we won't be there to look at it, or to hear her rude remarks about our clothes. That will teach her.

Well, Saturday arrived and with it came Stephanie's trunkful of beautiful clothes from Paris.

And next came Sunday, and Nigel, Stephanie's boy-friend, dressed in his best clothes and set off to call for Stephanie to take her for a walk in the park.

But on his way Nigel was surprised to see the other mice all walking in the other direction.

"Where are you going?" he asked.

"Today we are walking by the river. We don't want to listen to any more of your Steve's rude remarks they said. (Stephanie always called herself "Steve" to him. It sounded smarter.)

Then kind Nigel had an idea.

He rang Stephanie's doorbell and as soon as she came to answer it in a lovely frock and hat, and sun shade to match he stopped back in astonishment and gasped, "How amazing I can scarcely believe

"See if what is true?"

Well, on the way here, I happened to walk along by the river and I passed a bush of pink roses. And

thing is that you look even prettier than the roses do. I think. Come with me down to the river and we will check up."

So, of course, down to the river they went.

And in a few minutes they met all their friends. And even though they were cross with Stephanie, she looked so pretty that her friends could not help admiring her.

What a happy day it was, thanks to Nigel.

There will be another nice story next week.

There are two questions that you must answer before you begin to read this story. You must first decide whether you like to read stories about mice, and then whether you like to read stories about mice who are very clever.

If you answer "yes" to both of these questions, then you will enjoy this story very much. If you answer "no" to either of them, then you will not enjoy it so much.



# ALI BABA and the Forty Thieves



1. After finding the secret cave of the forty thieves, Ali Baba was rich. First he and his wife measured the amount of gold coins in a measuring cup and then Ali Baba dug a hole behind his house. "We will hide the golden treasure," he said.



2. When the gold coins were safely hidden, Ali Baba's wife hurried back to the house of Ali Baba's brother, Cassim, to return the measuring cup she had borrowed. Of course, she had not told Cassim's wife what it was she wished to measure.



3. But Cassim's wife, always anxious to know other people's business, had pressed a piece of candle-wax into the bottom of the measuring cup. And now, stuck to the candle-wax she found a gold coin. Excitedly, she showed it to her husband.



4. Knowing that Ali Baba was always poor, Cassim wondered how he had come to measure gold. "You must tell me all, brother," he said, after he had hurried to Ali Baba's house. Ali Baba told him of the cave which opened at the magic words "Open, Sesame."



3. Cassim was a wealthy man, but was not content with all the riches he had. Ever greedy for more, he set off with three mules carrying baskets into which he intended to load the treasure from the secret cave of the forty thieves.



4. He reached the great rock and stood before it. "Open, Sorcerer!" he commanded eagerly. No sooner had he uttered the magic words than a part of the rock swung open like a huge door to reveal a vast cave. "How wonderful," said Cassim.



7. As he stepped inside, the door silently closed behind him, but Cassim had only eyes for the treasure in the cave. With great haste he began to fill bag after bag with handfuls of gleaming gold coins—enough to satisfy even his greedy heart.



8. But when he was ready to leave, he found that the dazzling sight of the treasure had caused him to forget the magic words to open the door. "Open—er—parley! Open—er—maize!" he said, but the door remained shut. (More next week.)

# FAMOUS NAMES

Interesting facts about people and places and things that happened.



1. **King Louis the Fourteenth of France.** He was a lover of rich and beautiful things and built a magnificent palace for himself in a park at Versailles (say "Vair-say"), near Paris. He was called the "Sun King" and had a long reign of 72 years.



2. **Tokyo.** Tokyo is the capital city of Japan. Today's modern buildings have been built on the ruins of old wooden houses which were destroyed by a terrible earthquake and fire some years ago. More people live in Tokyo than in any other city in the world.



3. **Moses.** The Bible tells us the story of the time when the people of Israel were slaves in Egypt. The Pharaoh, or ruler, of Egypt ordered all their baby boys to be killed. One mother hid her baby, Moses, in the bulrushes beside the River Nile. He was found by an Egyptian princess, who looked after him.



4. **The Wooden Horse of Troy.** Greek soldiers had been trying to capture the city of Troy for 10 years. Some of them built a great wooden horse and hid inside it. When the people of Troy dragged the wooden horse inside their city, the hidden Greeks jumped out and opened the gates, letting the soldiers in.